

and funds made available to a Secretary concerned under section 206 shall be in addition to any other annual appropriations for the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

(b) All revenues generated from projects pursuant to Title II, any funds remitted by counties pursuant to section 102 (d)(1)(B) or section 103(c)(1)(B), and any interest accrued from such funds shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States.

#### SEC. 403. REGULATIONS.

The Secretaries concerned may jointly issue regulations to carry out the purposes of this Act.

#### SEC. 404. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

Sections 13982 and 13983 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-66; 16 U.S.C. 500 note; 43 U.S.C. 1181fnote) are repealed.

#### TITLE V—THE MINERAL REVENUE PAYMENTS CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2000

##### SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "The Mineral Revenue Payments Clarification Act of 2000".

##### SEC. 502. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Subtitle C of title X of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-66) changed the sharing of onshore mineral revenues and revenues from geothermal steam from a 50:50 split between the Federal Government and the States to a complicated formula that entailed deducting from the State share of leasing revenues "50 percent of the portion of the enacted appropriations of the Department of the Interior and any other agency during the preceding fiscal year allocable to the administration of all laws providing for the leasing of any onshore lands or interest in land owned by the United States for the production of the same types of minerals leasable under this Act or of geothermal steam, and to enforcement of such laws. . . ."

(2) There is no legislative record to suggest a sound public policy rationale for deducting prior-year administrative expenses from the sharing of current-year receipts, indicating that this change was made primarily for budget scoring reasons.

(3) The system put in place by this change in law has proved difficult to administer and has given rise to disputes between the Federal Government and the States as to the nature of allocable expenses. Federal accounting systems have proven to be poorly suited to breaking down administrative costs in the manner required by the law. Different Federal agencies implementing this law have used varying methodologies to identify allocable costs, resulting in an inequitable distribution of costs during fiscal years 1994 through 1996. In November, 1997, the Inspector General of the Department of the Interior found that "the congressionally approved method for cost sharing deductions effective in fiscal year 1997 may not accurately compute the deductions."

(4) Given the lack of a substantive rationale for the 1993 change in law and the complexity and administrative burden involved, a return to the sharing formula prior to the enactment of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 is justified.

#### SEC. 503. AMENDMENT OF THE MINERAL LEASING ACT.

Section 35(b) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. sec. 191(b)) is amended to read as follows: "(b) In determining the amount of payments to the States under this section, the amount of such payments shall not be re-

duced by any administrative or other costs incurred by the United States."

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to provide stability and predictability to the annual payments made to States and counties containing National Forest System lands and public domain lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management for the benefit of public schools and roads and to enhance the health, diversity and productivity of federal lands."

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 13, 2000, to conduct a symposium on circulating coin design.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, September 13, 2000, at 9:30 a.m. on marketing violence to children.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 13, for purposes of conducting a Full Committee business meeting which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this business meeting is to consider pending calendar business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 13, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, September 13, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. for a hearing to consider the nominations of Gerald Fisher and John Ramsey Johnson to be Associate Judges of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on

Indian Affairs be authorized to hold a business meeting on September 13, 2000, in the Russell Senate Office Building room number 485, immediately following the 2:30 p.m. hearing on S. 2899, where S. 2920, a bill to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act; S. 2688, a bill to amend the Native American Languages Act; and S. 2899, a bill to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States' relationship with Native Hawaiians, will be considered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 13, 2000, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building to hold a roundtable entitled "What Is Contract Bundling?"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet Wednesday, September 13, 2000 from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Dirksen 608 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 13, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, WILDLIFE, AND WATER

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 13, 9:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing to receive testimony on the Draft Biological Opinions by the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System and the Federal Caucus draft Basinwide Salmon Recovery Strategy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Lands of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 13, at 2:15 p.m. to conduct a hearing. The subcommittee will receive testimony on S. 2873, a bill to provide for all right, title, and interest

in and to certain property in Washington County, Utah, to be vested in the United States; H.R. 3676, a bill to establish the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument in the State of California; and its companion, S. 2784, a bill entitled, "Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Act of 2000"; S. 2865, a bill to designate certain land of the National Forest System located in the State of Virginia as wilderness; S. 2956 and its companion bill, H.R. 4275, a bill to establish the Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area and the Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness, and for other purposes; and S. 2977, a bill to assist in the establishment of an interpretive center and museum in the vicinity of the Diamond Valley Lake in southern California to ensure the protection and interpretation of the paleontology discoveries made at the lake and to develop a trail system for the lake for use by pedestrians and nonmotorized vehicles.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 1999

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I am pleased my colleague from Oregon has joined with me on the floor as we now consider, by unanimous consent, a key piece of legislation on which he, Senator WYDEN, and I have been working.

I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 520, S. 1608.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1608) to provide annual payments to the States and counties from National Forest System lands managed by the Forest Service, and the revested Oregon and California Railroad and reconveyed Coos Bay Wagon Road grant lands managed predominantly by the Bureau of Land Management, for use by the counties in which the lands are situated for the benefit of the public schools, roads, emergency and other public purposes; to encourage and provide new mechanisms for cooperation between counties and the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to make necessary investments in Federal lands, and reaffirm the positive connection between Federal Lands counties and Federal Lands; and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the "Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000".

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. *Short title; table of contents.*

Sec. 2. *Findings and purpose.*

Sec. 3. *Definitions.*

#### TITLE I—SECURE PAYMENTS FOR STATES AND COUNTIES CONTAINING FEDERAL LANDS

Sec. 101. *Determination of full payment amount for eligible States and counties.*

Sec. 102. *Payments to States from Forest Service lands for use by counties to benefit public education and transportation.*

Sec. 103. *Payments to counties from Bureau of Land Management lands for use to benefit public safety, law enforcement, education, and other public purposes.*

#### TITLE II—SPECIAL PROJECTS ON FEDERAL LANDS

Sec. 201. *Definitions.*

Sec. 202. *General limitation on use of project funds.*

Sec. 203. *Submission of project proposals.*

Sec. 204. *Evaluation and approval of projects by Secretary concerned.*

Sec. 205. *Resource advisory committees.*

Sec. 206. *Use of project funds.*

Sec. 207. *Availability of project funds.*

#### TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 301. *Authorization of appropriations.*

Sec. 302. *Treatment of funds and revenues.*

Sec. 303. *Regulations.*

Sec. 304. *Conforming amendments.*

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) *FINDINGS.*—The Congress finds the following:

(1) *The National Forest System, which is managed by the United States Forest Service, was established in 1907 and has grown to include approximately 192,000,000 acres of Federal lands.*

(2) *The public domain lands known as re-vested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands and the reconveyed Coos Bay Wagon Road grant lands, which are managed predominantly by the Bureau of Land Management were returned to Federal ownership in 1916 and 1919 and now comprise approximately 2,600,000 acres of Federal lands.*

(3) *Congress recognized that, by its decision to secure these lands in Federal ownership, the counties in which these lands are situated would be deprived of revenues they would otherwise receive if the lands were held in private ownership.*

(4) *These same counties have expended public funds year after year to provide services, such as education, road construction and maintenance, search and rescue, law enforcement, waste removal, and fire protection, that directly benefit these Federal lands and people who use these lands.*

(5) *To accord a measure of compensation to the affected counties for the critical services they provide to both county residents and visitors to these Federal lands, Congress determined that the Federal Government should share with these counties a portion of the revenues the United States receives from these Federal lands.*

(6) *Congress enacted in 1908 and subsequently amended a law that requires that 25 percent of the revenues derived from National Forest System lands be paid to States for use by the counties in which the lands are situated for the benefit of public schools and roads.*

(7) *Congress enacted in 1937 and subsequently amended a law that requires that 75 percent of the revenues derived from the re-vested and reconveyed grant lands be paid to the counties in which those lands are situated to be used as are other county funds, of which 50 percent is to be used as other county funds.*

(8) *For several decades primarily due to the growth of the Federal timber sale program,*

*counties dependent on and supportive of these Federal lands received and relied on increasing shares of these revenues to provide funding for schools and road maintenance.*

(9) *In recent years, the principal source of these revenues, Federal timber sales, has been sharply curtailed and, as the volume of timber sold annually from most of the Federal lands has decreased precipitously, so too have the revenues shared with the affected counties.*

(10) *This decline in shared revenues has affected educational funding and road maintenance for many counties.*

(11) *In the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Congress recognized this trend and ameliorated its adverse consequences by providing an alternative annual safety net payment to 72 counties in Oregon, Washington, and northern California in which Federal timber sales had been restricted or prohibited by administrative and judicial decisions to protect the northern spotted owl.*

(12) *The authority for these particular safety net payments is expiring and no comparable authority has been granted for alternative payments to counties elsewhere in the United States that have suffered similar losses in shared revenues from the Federal lands and in the funding for schools and roads those revenues provide.*

(13) *There is a need to stabilize education and road maintenance funding through predictable payments to the affected counties, job creation in those counties, and other opportunities associated with restoration, maintenance, and stewardship of federal lands.*

(14) *Both the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management face significant backlogs in infrastructure maintenance and ecosystem restoration that are difficult to address through annual appropriations.*

(15) *There is a need to build new, and strengthen existing, relationships and to improve management of public lands and waters.*

(b) *PURPOSES.*—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) *to stabilize and make permanent payments to counties to provide funding for schools and roads;*

(2) *to make additional investments in, and create additional employment opportunities through, projects that improve the maintenance of existing infrastructure, implement stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems, and restore and improve land health and water quality. Such projects shall enjoy broad-based support with objectives that may include, but are not limited to:*

(A) *Road, trail, and infrastructure maintenance or obliteration;*

(B) *Soil productivity improvement;*

(C) *Improvements in forest ecosystem health;*

(D) *Watershed restoration and maintenance;*

(E) *Restoration, maintenance and improvement of wildlife and fish habitat;*

(F) *Control of noxious and exotic species;*

(G) *Reestablishment of native species; and*

(H) *General resource stewardship.*

(3) *to improve cooperative relationships among the people that use and care for Federal lands and the agencies that manage these lands.*

#### SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) *FEDERAL LANDS.*—The term "Federal lands" means—

(A) *lands within the National Forest System, as defined in section 11(a) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1609(a)) exclusive of the National Grasslands administered pursuant to the Act of July 22, 1937 (7 U.S.C. 1010–10912); and*

(B) *the Oregon and California Railroad grant lands re-vested in the United States by the Act of June 9, 1916 (chapter 137; 39 Stat. 218), Coos Bay Wagon Road grant lands reconveyed to the United States by the Act of February 26, 1919*